

Lone Star News

Official Publication of the Texas State Organization



Vol 73 Special Edition

The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International ~ Key Women Educators

2020



Patti Belknap
Texas State President
2019-2021

TSO reflects its membership: strong, flexible and resilient

Plans were in place; everything was ready. The McAllen Steering Committee and the chapters of Area 5 were prepared to welcome TSO members from across the state to McAllen. I was excited to see everyone.

Then came Covid-19. Life as we know it came to an abrupt halt. We were told to stay home, schools were closed, meetings were cancelled and masks became our newest accessory. For the first time in the history of the Texas State Organization, the convention was cancelled because of a pandemic. While it was disappointing for all involved, the health and safety of our members was the number one concern.

As educators, most of us are flexible and resilient. We go with the flow and take interruptions in stride, but this was different. As strong women leaders, we chose not to accept things as they were and began to figure out how to stay connected with our friends, family and chapter members. Electronic platforms like Zoom were used not only to teach our students but to conduct chapter meetings, DKG Founders programs and installations of new chapter officers.

Our Society made it through the Great Depression, several wars and changing times. We have no idea what the classroom may look like in the fall; we have no idea if we will have face-to-face chapter meetings; but we do know our connections to each other remain strong.

WE are members of the Delta Kappa Gamma Society International, and as KEY women educators, we can change the world as we know it and hopefully make it just a little bit better.

YOU are the Key!



As KEY women educators, we can change the world as we know it....

This special edition of the *Lone Star News* is intended to give information on how TSO and ASTEF business which is normally conducted during the state convention is being handled.

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Executive Board conducts business online

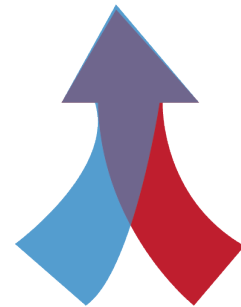
Even though the TSO Convention in McAllen was cancelled, the TSO Executive Board, made up of the voting members of the executive committee, the past state presidents and the chapter presidents, voted to adopt two recommendations and the budget for 2020-2021.

The first recommendation came from TSO President, Patti Belknap. It involved the dissolution of three chapters: Delta Chi - 5, Iota Beta - 6, and Mu Xi - 17.

Belknap also recommended the merging of the following chapters:

- Mu Theta with Mu Upsilon - 2
- Mu Psi with Eta Pi - 4
- Theta Gamma with Delta Psi - 5
- Mu Omega with Beta Pi - 5
- Epsilon Chi with Zeta - 8
- Kappa Eta with Zeta Zeta - 11
- Nu Beta with Mu Pi - 18

All members from chapters that requested to merge have been moved to their new chapter by DKG International.



The second recommendation came from TSO Personnel Chair Susie Nesmith. She proposed hiring Leesa Cole, Deborah Thomas and Katherine Grogan and contracting with Carol McMillan and Diane Moose for 2020-2021 at the salaries approved in the 2020-2021 budget.

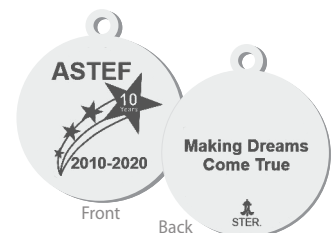
Commemorative Donor Pins given at area workshops

Major Cumulative Donors, who have donated at least \$500 to ASTEF over the last 10 years, will receive their Commemorative Donor Pins at the 2020 TSO Area Workshops. ASTEF is proud to honor these donors and hopes that they will wear this special pin with pride and continue to spread the word about the impact ASTEF is making.



Birthday keepsake charm available

Members may still order the new ASTEF 10th birthday keepsake charm depicting the theme "A Decade of Making Dreams Come True." This sterling silver charm produced by The Bell Collection will be a special treasure for years to come. Members may order the charm by visiting www.astef.org to download the advance order form. The charm is \$15 plus a \$3 fee for postage.



Chapter treasurer training & support

In early June, updated training materials and support documents for the Dues Portal will be available on the DKG Texas website/Treasurer's Page.



Treasurers who bookmark the website will find it an easy reference as materials will be added and updated for chapter treasurer duties throughout the year.

Chapter Treasurer upcoming deadlines:

- June 30: dues payments received at International HQ in Austin
- June 30: dues + fee payments received at TSO HQ in Dallas

Treasurers

Refer to the help document, "Dues: What to Send Where"

- July 1: 990N ePostcard filing begins
- July 15: Form 15 Annual Report of Chapter Treasurer is due

Chapter presidents learning with Zoom

Training for incoming chapter presidents will take place using ZOOM the week of June 16-18, 2020.



**LEADERSHIP
DEVELOPMENT**

CHAPTER PRESIDENTS

The training will include TSO President Patti Belknap, LDCP Chair Shalan Inmon, area coordinators, and TSO Mentors for each area. *Guidelines for Chapter Leaders*, available free on the DKG International website, and *Keys to*

Success, available in the 2020-2021 Presidents Kit on the TSO website, will be used for the training. Incoming chapter presidents will be able to ask questions and get to know their fellow presidents. A question and answer document will be placed on the LDCP webpage this summer. Follow up training will take place at TSO Area Workshops.

The schedule for the training is:

June 16	June 17	June 18
8:30 Areas 1 & 17	8:30 Area 9	8:30 Area 6
11:00 Areas 2 & 3	11:00 Areas 10, 13 & 16	11:00 Areas 11, 12 & 14
2:00 Area 18	2:00 Areas 5 & 7	2:00 Areas 4, 8 & 15

At A Glance Deadlines

June 1	Reports to ASTEF for Awarded Projects
30	Deadline for dues orders and payments to Int'l and TSO
July 1	First day of 2020 - 2022 biennium
	IRS 990N opens
15	Treas Form 15
	TSO Leadership Seminar App online
Aug 15	Deadline Fall LSN submissions
Oct 1	Cornetet Applications due

The More that you read, the More things you will know.

The More that you learn, the More places you'll go.

Dr. Suess

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MEMBERS: Send address changes to your chapter treasurer or go to www.dkg.org /MyDKG to make any changes in your information.

Never doubt yourself if someone else thinks you can do the job.

Sara Ling

Cheryl Crawford retiring from headquarters

Personally, I could not have done my job without her help, guidance, advice, and most importantly her friendship. She will be dearly missed.
Patti Belknap, TSO President 2019-2021

Working with Cheryl at TSO Headquarters for the past 5 years has given me the opportunity to know her different aspects. Kotaku Wamura might have been describing Cheryl when he wrote that a person's most useful asset is not a head full of knowledge, but a heart full of love, an ear ready to listen and a hand willing to help others.
Leese Cole, TSO Treasurer

Cheryl Crawford is very personable and has worked at the headquarters building for the Texas members for eight years. She stepped up to take the Executive Secretary position in 2016 and has been great support for the presidents, executive committees, and TSO committees and members. We have been lucky to have her and will miss her welcoming voice as we contact TSO Headquarters. She is a true friend to so many. Enjoy your travel time!
Marilyn Gregory, TSO President 2015-2017



Cheryl Crawford
TSO Executive Secretary
2016-2020

Cheryl is a good friend. I have enjoyed working with her the last 3 years at TSO Headquarters and before that as chapter president and treasurer. She is always willing to help you out with a ride to a medical procedure no matter the hour. Cheryl loves helping her friends when they have a need for assistance. Thanks for the special times.
Deborah Thomas, TSO Executive Assistant

CHERYL

Eight years she served all
Vital part of HQ Staff
Thanks from all our hearts

Caring, Helpful, Thoughtful, Supportive, Considerate, Compassionate. These are just a few words that describe Cheryl Crawford. What a blessing she has been to TSO, to ASTEF and to me personally. Thank you, Cheryl, for your support and encouragement this past year. You made my job easier. Your words of advice and your guidance have been invaluable. May this next chapter bring you time to do all the things you love and enjoy. As I read somewhere — May every day be a weekend day.
Rhonda Posey, ASTEF President 2019-2021

Thank you for all you did for members across the state these past eight years. You are: Caring, Helpful, Efficient, Reliable, and will be Lovingly missed.
Barbara Derrick, ASTEF President 2017-2019

"Good morning, Delta Kappa Gamma, Cheryl speaking. How may I help you?"

How many times did we hear this as we called HQ through her eight years employment? Always courteous, eager to share or gather needed information, open to hearing suggestions, compliments or complaints.

Thank you, Cheryl, for eight years of devoted, consistent, valued help not only to me but to countless other TSO members. Your never-failing conscientious work has been often noted and greatly appreciated.

Nancy Newton,
TSO President 2013-2015

When thinking of Cheryl, I think of a favorite quote from Maya Angelou that says, "I've learned that people will forget what you said, people will forget what you did, but people will never forget how you made them feel." She has that gift of making people feel good. No matter when I would call or what "issue" I brought to her, she always made me feel better about it. She makes you feel better when you are sad, stressed or worried. That truly is a gift.

Jo Murphy,
TSO President 2017-2019

To know Cheryl is to love her. She is truly dedicated to the Society and to helping others. She always goes above and beyond with any task with which she is challenged. Responsible, efficient and positive are only a few words that describe her work ethic. Her caring spirit and her happy attitude will be missed as she retires. To me, she was a very supportive co-worker and a dear friend.
Betty Vines, TSO Executive Secretary/Treasurer 2008-2016

Please Join Us
to celebrate
Cheryl Crawford's
Retirement

TSO Headquarters Building
August 1, 2020 from 2:00-4:00.
6220 Campbell Road, Suite 204
Dallas, TX 75248

Cheryl has been an amazing
Executive Secretary for TSO
and we want to thank her for
all she has done.

☪

Hope to see you all there!

Cheryl is very dedicated to TSO. She was willing to step up and accept the position of leadership at Headquarters simply because TSO needed her. She was concerned that she "did not know enough," but she was willing to learn and was not hesitant to research issues. She has a cheerful voice, positive attitude and a genuine sense of caring about each of us as individuals.

Carolyn Grantham, ASTEF President 2015-2017

Dream Maker Challenge offers solutions

The McAllen Convention was cancelled to protect TSO members from the possibility of contacting Covid-19. However, cancelling a convention does not cancel the work of ASTEF, and many matters must be addressed.

Typically, ASTEF raises \$15,000 to \$19,000 at convention through the many fundraisers and events. These funds provide roughly half of the funds awarded to deserving projects each year.

Without the convention contributions, awards will be affected, but needs will remain.

To help solve the shortage of funds, The ASTEF Board of Directors has created a **Dream Maker Convention Challenge**. Each member is asked to think about how much she would have contributed to ASTEF at the convention and to continue to be a Dream Maker by giving that same tax-deductible donation directly to ASTEF.

DREAM MAKER LEVELS

Dream Fairy Level

- \$25 ticket to ASTEF Extravaganza

Total donation to ASTEF - **\$25**

Genie Level

- \$25 ticket to ASTEF Extravaganza
- \$5 in arm-length tickets for a chance to win a Denton Convention Registration

Total donation to ASTEF - **\$30**

Angel Level

- \$25 ticket to ASTEF Extravaganza
- \$5 in arm-length tickets for a chance to win a Denton Convention Registration
- \$10 for Mystery Mania and a guaranteed \$10 or MORE gift card

Total donation to ASTEF - **\$40**

Fairy Godmother Level

- \$25 ticket to ASTEF Extravaganza
- \$5 in arm-length tickets for a chance to win a Denton Registration
- \$10 for Mystery Mania and a guaranteed \$10 or MORE gift card
- Purchase jewelry from the Kendra Scott Pop-Up Store – avg. \$35

Total donation to ASTEF - **\$75**

The challenge starts immediately and will run through September 30. The more money members raise for ASTEF, the more money ASTEF can give back to members, non-members, Aspiring Educators, and Texas children, students and educators.

Members participating in the **Dream Maker Convention Challenge**, will find a donation form on the ASTEF website at www.astef.org.



ASTEF: impacting education by impacting educators



Project Stipend announcements

One of the most exciting things the ASTEF Board does is award the project stipends during the ASTEF Annual Meeting at the TSO convention. Unfortunately, the 2020 recipients will not be able to experience that excitement in person.

The announcement of Project Stipend winners will be posted on the ASTEF website, www.astef.org, on Friday, June 19, 2020. In addition, all those applying will be notified by mail. Awardees will receive a packet with information and specific directions. The information details when reports should be submitted as well as other pertinent information for successfully implementing a project.

The true excitement begins as chapters and individuals implement their worthy projects in their communities and schools.

INTERNATIONAL

Delta Kappa Gamma prepares virtual events

Members attend DKG conventions to experience the excitement of interacting with friends, engaging in the business of the Society and growing in knowledge through the many workshops and presentations offered. Unfortunately, the 2020 DKG International Convention is cancelled.

To meet the needs of members, DKG International is working to provide a series of virtual events on July 7-10. These events will be both pre-recorded and live streaming. They will include speeches from advertised keynote speakers, workshops, the Diversity Forum, and the announcements of new DKG officers and the DKG Achievement Award recipient.



The events will be available free to all members through the DKG website, www.dkg.org, or the DKG app. Download and login instructions for the DKG app may be found on the DKG website.